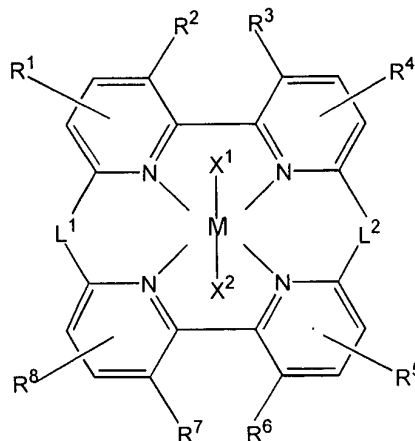


In the claims:

Claims 17-27 have been cancelled.

Claims 1-16 have been reiterated as follows:

1. (Reiterated) A metal complex of the following formula:



wherein

each of R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>7</sup>, and R<sup>8</sup>, independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxylalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, amino, aminoalkyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, or heteroaralkyl; each of R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup>, and R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup>, independently, optionally joining together to form a cyclic moiety fused with the two pyridyl rings to which R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup>, or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are bonded; the cyclic moiety, if present, optionally being substituted with alkyl, alkoxy, hydroxyl, hydroxylalkyl, halo, haloalkyl, amino, aminoalkyl, alkylcarbonylamino, alkylaminocarbonyl, alkylcarbonyl, alkylcarbonylalkyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonyloxy, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, heteroaryl, or heteroaralkyl;

each of L<sup>1</sup> and L<sup>2</sup>, independently, is -C(R<sup>a</sup>)(R<sup>b</sup>)-, -O-, -S-, or -N(R<sup>c</sup>)-; each of R<sup>a</sup>, R<sup>b</sup>, and R<sup>c</sup>, independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aralkyl, or heteroaralkyl;

M is a Co, Ni, Ru, Rh, Mn, Os, Ag, Cr, Zn, Cd, Hg, Re, Ir, Pt, or Pd ion; and

each of X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>2</sup>, independently, is a labile ligand;

or a salt thereof.

2. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein each of  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^6$ ,  $R^7$ , and  $R^8$ , independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, or alkoxy.

3. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein each of  $R^2$  and  $R^3$ , and  $R^6$  and  $R^7$ , independently, join together to form a cyclic moiety; the cyclic moiety being benzene.

4. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 3, wherein the cyclic moiety is unsubstituted.

5. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 4, wherein each of  $R^1$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ , and  $R^8$ , independently, is hydrogen, alkyl, or alkoxy.

6. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 5, wherein each of  $R^1$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ , and  $R^8$ , independently, is hydrogen.

7. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 6, wherein each of  $L^1$  and  $L^2$ , independently, is  $-N(R^c)-$  where  $R^c$  is hydrogen.

8. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 7, wherein M is Co.

9. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 8, wherein  $X^1$  and  $X^2$ , independently, is trifluoroacetate.

10. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 9, wherein said complex is cobalt(II) (hexaazacyclophane) (trifluoroacetate).

11. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein each of  $L^1$  and  $L^2$ , independently, is  $-S-$  or  $-N(R^c)-$ .

12. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 11, wherein each of  $L^1$  and  $L^2$ , independently, is  $-N(R^c)-$  where  $R^c$  is hydrogen.

13. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein M is Co, Ru, or Mn.

14. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 13, wherein M is Co.

15. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 1, wherein  $X^1$  and  $X^2$ , independently, is  $H_2O$ , Cl, trifluoroacetate, or pyridine.

16. (Reiterated) The metal complex of claim 15, wherein  $X^1$  and  $X^2$ , independently, is trifluoroacetate.

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